

**REMARKS**

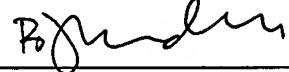
The claims have been amended to delete, without prejudice, the reference to SEQ ID No: 3. No new matter has been added.

An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



B. J. Sadoff

Reg. No. 36,663

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100